

April 1952

Marie Kirkwood
In Charge of Publicity

Announcement is made of award of a fellowship to Louise H. Burchfield, Associate Curator of Paintings of The Cleveland Museum of Art, by The John Simon Guggenheim Foundation for the study of portrait miniatures. The work will cover two four month periods in the next two years. Miss Burchfield will leave for Europe in August, and in the course of her studies will visit England, Ireland, Sweden, Denmark, France, Switzerland and Italy, viewing portrait miniatures in public and private collections, particularly in search of items never published and not known, in preparation of a book she will write, on completion of the work. It will present, in popular style, a subject not well known nor appreciated in this country, but in which there is deep interest, especially in England, to fill a gap in American art interest.

Director William M. Milliken, of the Cleveland Museum of Art, points out that the award, which he ranks as high honor for the Museum and the City, is the outgrowth of the work done here by Edward B. Greene, in making his collection of portrait miniatures, the finest in the country, which he gave last year to the Art Museum, of which he is vice president.

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Miss Burchfield says that by means of this study she hopes to become an authority on portrait miniatures, a modest statement since she has already worked intensively with Mr. Greene on his collection, and made a trip to Europe for study in connection with it three years ago, after which the Royal Society of Miniature Painters, in England, made her an honorary member.

She was born in Akron, Ohio, grew up in different Ohio towns, and has been a member of the Museum Staff, for a number of years. Charles E. Burchfield, now of Buffalo, considered by many America's most distinguished painter, is her brother. Another brother, Joseph H. Burchfield, lives at 1718 Strathmore Road, East Cleveland. Two other brothers, Fred and James, reside in Logan, Ohio. They are descended from an old pioneering family. Outside of art her hobbies are conchology and deep sea fishing.